

CHICAGO HAS PUREST WATER OF ANY LARGE CITY IN WORLD.

**System Really Begun in 1854, When
First Large Pumping Station Was
Built.**

The public water supply and water works system of Chicago was really begun in 1854, when the first large pumping station of the Chicago water works was built at Chicago avenue and the lake. In the half century that has elapsed since the primitive beginning of the present vast system the population of the city has grown from 65,872 to nearly 2,200,000, and the gallons pumped per day have increased from 301,683 to 436,054,473. During the same period the water pipe mileage has advanced from 20 to 2,073.

In connection with this great growth of the water works system there has been marked improvements in the quality of the water supplied the metropolis. At the outset the sewers of Chicago emptied into the river, thence into the lake. It was not believed that so immense a body of water could be contaminated, but the rapid growth of the city and the consequent increase of sewage soon made it apparent that to preserve the health of the city the waste would have to be diverted from the source of the water supply.

This led ultimately to the construction at great cost of the drainage canal, the reversal of the river current, and the building of an intercepting sewer system to further facilitate the work of preserving the waters of Lake Michigan from any sort of pollution.

As a result of this immense expenditure Chicago today possesses the purest water supply of any large city in the world. The most recent statistics on Chicago's annual death rate are proof in part of how great a factor in the health of a great city is pure water.

The land tunnels of the water works system now number eight, and water pipe tunnels under the Chicago river fifteen. Five water works cribs are maintained in the lake at distances ranging from two to four miles. Tunnels under the bed of the lake bring the supply of water to the various pumping stations, whence it is distributed through pipes and mains to the remotest sections of the city.

CITY'S POLICE DEPARTMENT SHOWS STEADY IMPROVEMENT.

**Especially Noticeable in Street Crossing
Service—45 Stations Under Com-
mand of 7 Inspectors and 16 Captains.**

The police department of Chicago has shown steady improvement in recent years. This is especially noticeable in the street crossing service. The teamster gives close attention to the police whistle now.

A civil service board controls the force and maintains an effective discipline within its ranks. Insufficient appropriation for maintenance of the department at highest efficiency has prevented that degree of perfection which it otherwise might have attained, but yearly marked improvement is noted and it is only a matter of a brief period until Chicago will become one of the best policed cities in the country.

There are forty-five police stations in the city, which are under the supervision of seven inspectors of divisions and sixteen captains of divisions. The mounted squad consists of seventy men under their own captain. Under the assistant superintendent is a gambling detail of eight men, and captains of police supervise the work of the detective bureau and the bureau of identification.

In charge of the police department also are the dog pound, the municipal lodging house, and the bureau of firearms, the last named exercising supervision over the sale and licensing of firearms of all descriptions.

Other subdivisions are the pawnshop detail, the vehicle department, and automobile registry. The murder bureau is under the direct supervision of the assistant superintendent of police. The theater detail exercises censorship over theatrical plays, shows, and amusements in general.

A feature of the police department is the "beauty squad," consisting of sixty men selected from the entire department for their excellent physical proportions and fine appearance. The "beauty squad" is kept under constant special drill and on certain occasions is employed as escort.

NEW NUMBERING OF STREETS.

**System Recently Put Into Force Will
Make It Easier for Persons to
Find Way About.**

Under the new system of street naming and numbering now in effect State street is the north and south base line and all streets running east and west start with Nos. 1 and 2 at State street, but east of that street have the prefix "East." For instance, Chicago avenue is Chicago avenue west of State street but "East Chicago avenue" east of that street. Madison street is the east and west base line and all north and south streets start with Nos. 1 and 2 at that street. South of Madison street there is no prefix but north of that street the prefix "North" is used. It is, for instance, simply Halsted street south of Madison street and "North" Halsted north of Madison street.